

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of Childhood
Office of Special Education

First Steps SPOE Data Quarterly Report

March 2026

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Database as of 3/20/2026

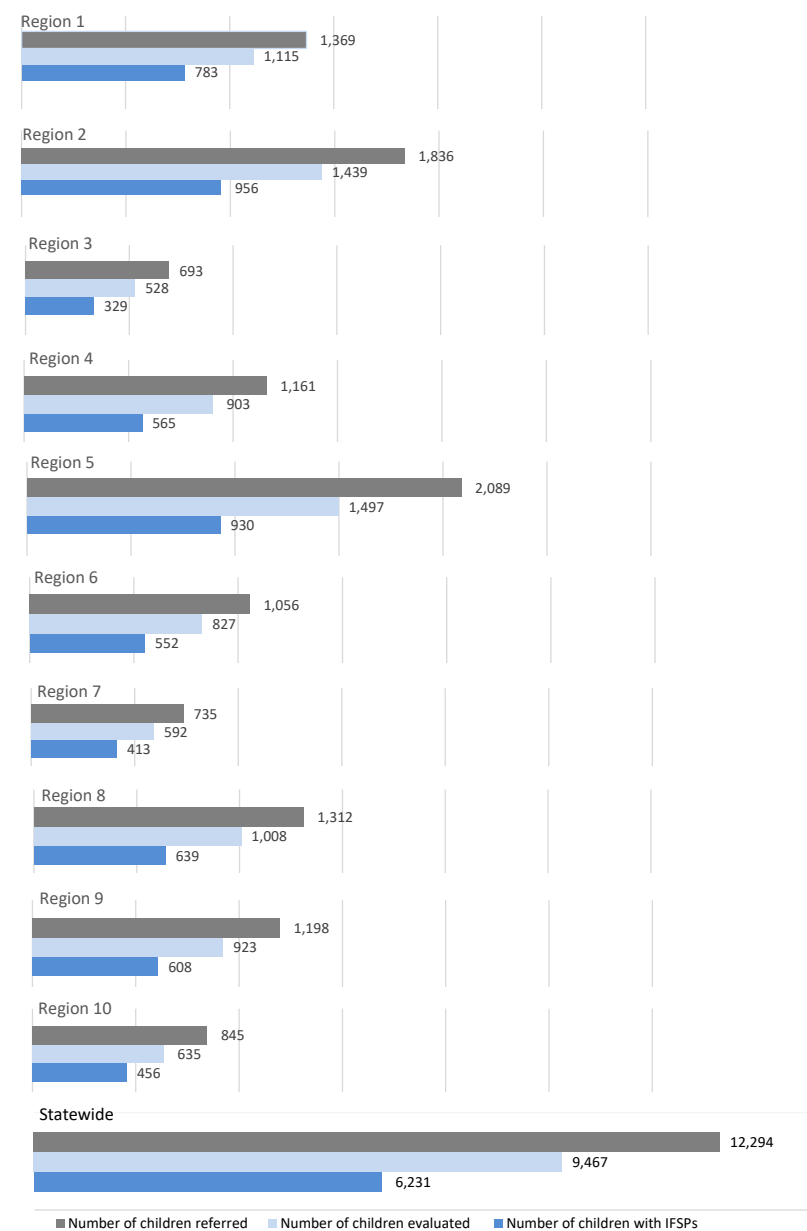
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**Number of Unduplicated Referrals, Number of Children Evaluated, and IFSP
Unduplicated Referrals During Last 12 months (February 2025 to January 2026)**

SPOE	Category	Number/Rate
Greater St. Louis (Reg. 1)	Number of children referred	1,369
	Number of children evaluated	1,115
	Number of children with IFSPs	783
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	70.2%
St. Louis County (Reg. 2)	Number of children referred	1,836
	Number of children evaluated	1,439
	Number of children with IFSPs	956
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	66.4%
Northeast (Reg. 3)	Number of children referred	693
	Number of children evaluated	528
	Number of children with IFSPs	329
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	62.3%
Northwest (Reg. 4)	Number of children referred	1,161
	Number of children evaluated	903
	Number of children with IFSPs	565
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	62.6%
Greater Kansas City (Reg. 5)	Number of children referred	2,089
	Number of children evaluated	1,497
	Number of children with IFSPs	930
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	62.1%
Central (Reg. 6)	Number of children referred	1,056
	Number of children evaluated	827
	Number of children with IFSPs	552
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	66.7%
Southwest (Reg. 7)	Number of children referred	735
	Number of children evaluated	592
	Number of children with IFSPs	413
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	69.8%
South Central (Reg. 8)	Number of children referred	1,312
	Number of children evaluated	1,008
	Number of children with IFSPs	639
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	63.4%
East Central (Reg. 9)	Number of children referred	1,198
	Number of children evaluated	923
	Number of children with IFSPs	608
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	65.9%
Southeast (Reg. 10)	Number of children referred	845
	Number of children evaluated	635
	Number of children with IFSPs	456
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	71.8%
Statewide	Number of children referred	12,294
	Number of children evaluated	9,467
	Number of children with IFSPs	6,231
	IFSP rate for all evaluated children	65.8%

Referrals exclude "Inquiry Only" referrals.

**Comparison of Number of Unduplicated Referrals, Children Evaluated,
and Children with IFSPs by SPOE and Statewide**



Primary Referral Sources and IFSP Eligibility Rates Over Last 12 Months

Referrals Include Multiple Referrals Per Child

SPOE	Medical Providers	Social Service Agencies	Early Childhood Programs	Parent
Greater St. Louis (Reg. 1)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	800	72	159	669
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	350	31	75	411
IFSP Rate	43.8%	43.1%	47.2%	61.4%
St. Louis County (Reg. 2)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	1,201	108	148	968
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	470	37	51	517
IFSP Rate	39.1%	34.3%	34.5%	53.4%
Northeast (Reg. 3)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	527	68	118	168
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	231	22	47	82
IFSP Rate	43.8%	32.4%	39.8%	48.8%
Northwest (Reg. 4)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	779	66	113	512
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	314	12	44	249
IFSP Rate	40.3%	18.2%	38.9%	48.6%
Greater Kansas City (Reg. 5)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	1,388	179	213	829
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	514	34	79	412
IFSP Rate	37.0%	19.0%	37.1%	49.7%
Central (Reg. 6)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	832	72	141	300
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	353	18	57	177
IFSP Rate	42.4%	25.0%	40.4%	59.0%
Southwest (Reg. 7)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	457	66	139	233
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	216	24	63	144
IFSP Rate	47.3%	36.4%	45.3%	61.8%
South Central (Reg. 8)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	827	206	240	402
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	354	46	95	233
IFSP Rate	42.8%	22.3%	39.6%	58.0%
East Central (Reg. 9)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	705	114	181	481
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	295	26	91	260
IFSP Rate	41.8%	22.8%	50.3%	54.1%
Southeast (Reg. 10)				
Primary Referral Sources (last 12 months)	652	97	1,569	235
Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	279	27	662	134
IFSP Rate	42.8%	27.8%	42.2%	57.0%
Grand Total - Primary Referrals (last 12 months)	8,168	1,048	1,569	4,797
Grand Total - Primary Referral Sources resulting in IFSP	3,376	277	662	2,619
IFSP Rate for Each Referral Source	41.3%	26.4%	42.2%	54.6%
% by Source - Statewide	52.4%	6.7%	10.1%	30.8%

Referrals exclude "Inquiry Only" referrals.

IFSP counts are unduplicated

Medical Providers include Hospital (other than NICU), Physician (inc. Psych.), Other health care provider, Public Health Facilities/Providers, and NICU.

Social Service Agencies include DMH, DHSS, CAPTA, Homeless Family Shelters, Domestic Violence Shelters/Agencies, and Social Service Agency (inc Foster Care).

Early Childhood Programs include Parents as Teachers, Head Start/Early Head Start, Other LEA program, Child Care Program/Provider, and MSD/MSB.

Active Children with IFSPs by Primary Program Eligibility

		Dev. Delay - Half Age	Dev. Delay - ICO*	Medical Condition/Medical Condition - ICO*	Very Low Birth Weight	Total
Greater St. Louis (Reg.1)	Number	613	148	270	115	1,146
	Percent	53.5%	12.9%	24.5%	10.0%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Reg.2)	Number	820	183	267	187	1,457
	Percent	56.3%	12.6%	20.6%	12.8%	100.0%
Northeast (Reg.3)	Number	327	17	118	55	517
	Percent	63.2%	3.3%	31.9%	10.6%	100.0%
Northwest (Reg.4)	Number	537	46	124	42	749
	Percent	71.7%	6.1%	19.2%	5.6%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg.5)	Number	835	17	269	133	1,254
	Percent	66.6%	1.4%	22.0%	10.6%	100.0%
Central (Reg.6)	Number	546	27	171	91	835
	Percent	65.4%	3.2%	26.4%	10.9%	100.0%
Southwest (Reg.7)	Number	368	63	82	38	551
	Percent	66.8%	11.4%	18.0%	6.9%	100.0%
South Central (Reg.8)	Number	583	79	154	66	882
	Percent	66.1%	9.0%	19.0%	7.5%	100.0%
East Central (Reg.9)	Number	600	30	184	99	913
	Percent	65.7%	3.3%	24.1%	10.8%	100.0%
Southeast (Reg.10)	Number	465	37	126	44	672
	Percent	69.2%	5.5%	21.3%	6.5%	100.0%
Grand Total (Statewide)	Number	5,694	647	1,765	870	8,976
	Percent	63.4%	7.2%	19.7%	9.7%	100.0%

* Informed Clinical Opinion (ICO)

Active Children with IFSPs by Primary Setting*

		Home	Community Setting	Total Natural Environment Setting	Other**	Total
Greater St. Louis (Reg.1)	Number	995	129	1,124	9	1,133
	Percent	87.8%	11.4%	99.2%	0.8%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Reg.2)	Number	1,201	224	1,425	8	1,433
	Percent	83.8%	15.6%	99.4%	0.6%	100.0%
Northeast (Reg.3)	Number	440	67	507	*	508
	Percent	86.6%	13.2%	99.8%	*	100.0%
Northwest (Reg.4)	Number	676	62	738	*	738
	Percent	91.6%	8.4%	100.0%	*	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Reg.5)	Number	1,140	94	1,234	*	1,235
	Percent	92.3%	7.6%	99.9%	*	100.0%
Central (Reg.6)	Number	738	93	831	*	831
	Percent	88.8%	11.2%	100.0%	*	100.0%
Southwest (Reg.7)	Number	481	66	547	*	547
	Percent	87.9%	12.1%	100.0%	*	100.0%
South Central (Reg.8)	Number	724	147	871	*	871
	Percent	83.1%	16.9%	100.0%	*	100.0%
East Central (Reg.9)	Number	828	62	890	10	900
	Percent	92.0%	6.9%	98.9%	1.1%	100.0%
Southeast (Reg.10)	Number	565	106	671	*	671
	Percent	84.2%	15.8%	100.0%	*	100.0%
Grand Total (Statewide)	Number	7,788	1,050	8,838	29	8,867
	Percent	87.8%	11.8%	99.7%	0.3%	100.0%

*Does not include children with meetings in ongoing status.

** Other includes Special Purpose Center, Hospital, Residential Facility, and Service Provider Location.

Active Children with IFSPs Compared to SPOE Population by Race

	Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	St. Louis County (Region 2)	Northeast (Region 3)	Northwest (Region 4)	Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	Central (Region 6)	Southwest (Region 7)	South Central (Region 8)	East Central (Region 9)	Southeast (Region 10)	State Total
Total % of Pop	5.26%	4.76%	4.40%	3.76%	3.69%	4.55%	4.04%	3.83%	4.79%	4.76%	4.35%
Asian and Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander*											
% of Pop.	4.12%	3.11%	2.04%	2.35%	2.74%	2.69%	2.33%	2.68%	2.21%	2.04%	2.96%
Black or African American**											
% of Pop.	5.76%	5.30%	7.04%	4.48%	3.45%	5.33%	5.81%	4.18%	6.25%	5.90%	4.92%
White											
% of Pop.	5.07%	4.54%	4.19%	3.68%	3.91%	4.46%	4.02%	3.80%	4.70%	4.59%	4.26%
Native American or Alaska Native											
% of Pop.	7.87%	5.78%	0.00%	3.45%	0.00%	2.35%	1.24%	4.20%	1.85%	0.00%	2.35%

*Census data (2024 US Census Estimates) combines race categories Asian & Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander.

**Children with two or more races are included in the Black percent of population.

Active Children with IFSPs Compared to SPOE Population by Ethnicity

	Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	St. Louis County (Region 2)	Northeast (Region 3)	Northwest (Region 4)	Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	Central (Region 6)	Southwest (Region 7)	South Central (Region 8)	East Central (Region 9)	Southeast (Region 10)	State Total
Hispanic/Latino											
Active Children	96	116	20	111	257	69	89	70	63	44	935
Under 3 Pop.	1,710	2,079	540	2,057	5,958	1,362	1,978	1,628	1,040	794	19,146
% of Pop.	5.61%	5.58%	3.70%	5.40%	4.31%	5.07%	4.50%	4.30%	6.06%	5.54%	4.88%
NOT Hispanic/Latino											
Active Children	1,050	1,341	497	638	997	766	462	812	850	628	8,041
Under 3 Pop.	20,091	28,507	11,221	17,847	28,031	17,005	11,651	21,429	18,014	13,338	187,134
% of Pop.	5.23%	4.70%	4.43%	3.57%	3.56%	4.50%	3.97%	3.79%	4.72%	4.71%	4.30%

Inactivations by Reason-Children Who Had an IFSP, Last 12 Months

SPOE	Child Deceased	Completion of IFSP	Moved Out of State	Parent Withdrawn/ Withdrawn due to FCP	Pt B Elig in Process	Pt B Inelig Exit to Other/Pt B Inelig Exit w/o Ref	Pt B Ref Refused Parent	Transition to Part B	Unable to Contact/ Locate	Grand Total
Greater St. Louis (Region 1)	0.5%	2.8%	3.6%	13.6%	2.9%	16.4%	8.1%	45.7%	6.4%	100.0%
St. Louis County (Region 2)	0.3%	4.4%	3.2%	13.3%	3.4%	12.4%	7.0%	47.7%	8.4%	100.0%
Northeast (Region 3)	0.7%	0.0%	3.7%	18.2%	2.7%	13.1%	8.1%	48.5%	4.9%	100.0%
Northwest (Region 4)	0.2%	1.2%	4.1%	23.0%	2.6%	9.8%	7.9%	48.6%	2.6%	100.0%
Greater Kansas City (Region 5)	0.3%	1.2%	5.6%	16.4%	2.6%	8.2%	9.3%	51.0%	5.4%	100.0%
Central (Region 6)	0.3%	0.3%	4.7%	14.1%	4.5%	14.7%	8.7%	48.1%	4.5%	100.0%
Southwest (Region 7)	0.0%	10.6%	3.5%	15.3%	6.4%	6.4%	10.4%	42.8%	4.4%	100.0%
South Central (Region 8)	0.4%	0.7%	5.3%	21.5%	4.0%	10.4%	10.4%	43.7%	3.7%	100.0%
East Central (Region 9)	0.3%	1.3%	5.2%	16.2%	1.3%	13.6%	9.7%	48.1%	4.2%	100.0%
Southeast (Region 10)	0.6%	1.0%	4.1%	17.1%	4.9%	14.8%	12.3%	38.5%	6.6%	100.0%
Statewide %	0.3%	2.3%	4.3%	16.5%	3.4%	11.9%	9.0%	46.8%	5.4%	100.0%

Percentage = Inactivation Reason/Total for each SPOE

Inactivations by Reason-Children Who Had an IFSP can include multiple enrollment periods for one child.